

measure will establish a competitive grant program for community colleges to raise graduation rates, modernize facilities, and create new online learning opportunities.

This legislation not only invests in our college students, but also focuses on the next generation of students by ensuring that all children have the preparation and skills they need on their very first day of school. By creating the Early Learning Challenge Fund, competitive grants will be awarded to states that implement comprehensive reform of birth-to-five early learning programs. H.R. 3221 also provides more than \$13.7 million over the next two years to Rhode Island school districts for school modernization, renovation and repair projects that will create healthier, safer and more energy-efficient teaching and learning climates.

Madam Chair, this measure will have long-term benefits for our economy. Going forward, we must continue to build upon these advances so the next generation is encouraged to pursue their dreams.

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CAMBRIA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. MURTHA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 100th Anniversary of the Cambria County Association of Township Officials. This organization and the townships that comprise it have seen many changes over the last century since its inception.

When Cambria County's townships first formed, they were primarily agrarian. Farms dotted the landscape and were valuable contributors to the local, state, and national economies. However, as America was quickly industrializing, the townships changed as many of their citizens began working in the coal mines that were opening throughout the county. Even today, the economies are again changing as Cambria County's townships are becoming the center of new, high-tech industries.

Madam Speaker, while the county's industries have changed over the years, Cambria County's townships have adapted by adding and diversifying its businesses. Instead of changing entirely, the townships are now home to agriculture, mining, and high-tech industries.

The townships are also quality places to live, with many who work elsewhere choosing to live and raise families there. They are among the county's assets.

Finally, like the County itself, the townships have endured much hardship, surviving severe flooding in 1889, 1936, and 1977. They also survived the collapse of the steel industry and the ripple effects throughout the entire county. Their resilience is a reflection of the strong people who live and work there.

Over the years, as the townships experienced the economic ups and downs, they have had a constant advocate. The Cambria County Association of Township Officials has been there to lobby on behalf of its members. They meet on a monthly basis, gathering to

discuss common issues. The group is also a member of the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Officials.

Madam Speaker, I conclude my remarks by commending the Cambria County Association of Township Officials, as well as the townships themselves, for their hard work and dedication to the people of Cambria County.

CONGRATULATING THE KERN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ON ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Kern Community Foundation (KCF) on its 10th anniversary serving the citizens of the southern San Joaquin Valley. KCF was formally established in 1999, but it actually organized in 1995. The Foundation was created to build endowments to address Kern County's changing needs over time, help donors create charitable legacies, and assist nonprofit groups to deliver services to manage their donated funds.

In 2002, KCF joined the League of California Community Foundations, and received re-granting funds from the California Endowment for health needs in Kern County. KCF then launched the Nonprofits' Resource Center in 2003 to assist Kern County's nonprofit organizations with training, discussions of community issues, technical assistance, grant-writing help, e-blast communications, and program support.

In 2005, KCF introduced the Women's & Girls' Fund of Kern County as its first Field of Interest Fund. The Women's & Girls' Fund provides ongoing support to nonprofit organizations that serve Kern's women and girls. To date, the Fund has introduced the concepts of "collective giving" and "giving circles" to more than 300 donors. KCF's Women's & Girls' Fund has been model for other small foundations in California to emulate.

Also in 2005, the Kern Community Foundation entered strategic re-granting partnerships with private foundations, all of which continue in 2009. These partners include the California Wellness Foundation, the Weingart Foundation, and the James Irvine Foundation. The Kern Community Foundation achieved compliance with "National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations" in 2006.

Since its inception, the Kern Community Foundation has promoted philanthropy to individuals, nonprofits and civic groups in numerous Kern communities including Bakersfield, Ridgecrest, Shafter, Wasco and the Kern River Valley area. With new funds added each year, KCF currently holds 90 charitable funds to suit various donors' intent. The Foundation has operated several grant making programs to benefit Kern County: Discretionary Grants; Kern Community Wellness Grants; Weingart-KCF Grants; Kern Community Response Grants; School-to-Career Grants; Women's & Girls' Fund Grants; and GABY (Grant Advisory Board for Youth) Grants.

The Kern Community Foundation has given the County of Kern ten years of dedicated service. I commend KCF for its service to Kern County residents in standing by their

mission statement of "enhancing the quality of life for all of the people of Kern County by encouraging philanthropy, by providing services to donors, and by assisting those who serve to meet the needs of the community." I applaud KCF's admirable service to Kern County and will continue to do so for years to come.

HONORING THE LIFE OF FORMER CONGRESSMAN JAMES EDWARD BROMWELL

HON. DAVID LOEBSACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. LOEBSACK. Madam Speaker, today I would like to make note of the life of former Congressman James Edward Bromwell. Mr. Bromwell served his country in WWII as an officer after finishing his undergraduate degree at the University of Iowa. Upon honorable discharge from the U.S. Army in 1946, Mr. Bromwell received his MBA from Harvard University and then returned home to receive his JD from the University of Iowa in 1950. Mr. Bromwell served as Assistant Linn County Attorney before being elected as the Representative for the 2nd Congressional District in 1960. As Representative of the 2nd District, Mr. Bromwell sat on the Judiciary Committee and was imperative in contributing and ultimately helping pass the historic Civil Rights Act of 1964. This landmark legislation corrected a serious social injustice within our society. Mr. James Edward Bromwell passed away on July 11, 2009. The service that James Bromwell performed for his country and state will not be forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO THE CLIFTON JEWISH CENTER

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the work of an outstanding religious institution, The Clifton Jewish Center in Clifton, New Jersey, which this year is celebrating its 66th Anniversary of dedicated service and support to the Jewish Community.

It is only fitting that The Clifton Jewish Center be honored in this, the permanent record of the greatest democracy ever known, for the spiritual home it has provided to Jewish American families, especially those just embarking on their American dream, and its dedication to the entire community. This dedication keeps this deeply-rooted institution growing towards the future.

The Clifton Jewish Center is a Conservative Egalitarian Synagogue providing worship, comfort and friendship to the Jewish community. From its beginnings in 1943, with only a handful of families, the Center has been a constant source of cultural and spiritual events for all age groups. The Center's main purpose has always been to enrich the lives of the people of Clifton by providing creative programming of an educational, cultural and recreational nature.